



HURRICANE DENNIS BRINGS MUCH NEEDED RAINFALL

Rainfall from Hurricane Dennis occurred during the early portion of last week, bringing much needed rainfall to the State’s crops and pastures. Scattered thunderstorms were common the rest of the week due to the moisture and instability left over from Dennis. The abundant rain, coupled with cooler temperatures, provided a much needed boost for crop development and conditions. Over a third of the corn acreage has entered the dough stage and was rated in mostly good condition. Nearly all of the State’s cotton was squaring and setting bolls, on pace with normal. Soybeans were setting pods at a rate about 3 weeks ahead of normal. Tobacco growers began topping last and were able to complete just under a fifth of the acreage. There were 3 days suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent very short, 8 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent very short, 17 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Last week, temperatures averaged near normal across most of the State, but below normal over western Tennessee. Rainfall averaged well above normal over all but eastern Tennessee.

CROP PROGRESS: Through July 17, 2005					CONDITION: On July 15, 2005					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Silking or Beyond	92	78	94	94	Corn	3	8	26	52	11
Corn - Dough	36	14	46	36	Cotton	1	3	20	57	19
Corn - Dent	3	n/a	3	3	Tobacco	2	5	29	55	9
Cotton Squaring	98	97	99	96	Pastures	2	11	38	44	5
Cotton Setting Bolls	48	27	45	43	Soybeans	3	6	24	52	15
Soybeans - Blooming	74	56	33	32						
Soybeans - Setting Pods	48	18	11	12						
Tobacco Topped	17	n/a	18	16						
Alfalfa Hay - 2 nd Cutting	79	73	75	83						

n/a = not available

CORN: Over ninety percent of the State’s corn has entered the silking stage with over a third in the dough stage. Last week’s rainfall improved the condition of corn previously stressed by dry conditions. The crop improved from less than half of the acreage rated in good-to-excellent condition the week earlier to 63 percent at week’s end.

COTTON: As of Sunday, virtually all of the cotton acreage was squaring. Forty-eight percent of the crop was setting bolls, slightly ahead of the normal pace. Producers were busy controlling insects and applying growth regulators last week. The crop was rated in mostly good condition.

SOYBEANS: Three-fourths of the State’s soybeans were blooming with nearly half setting pods. Soybean development outpaced the normal schedule by about three weeks. Some producers made timely fungicide applications to early maturing fields prior to the rain. The crop was rated in mostly good condition.

TOBACCO: Nearly one-fifth of the tobacco acreage has been topped and was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition. Disease controls were made last week, as black shank continued to create problems. Blue mold has also been confirmed in a few areas.

PASTURES & HAY: Pastures were upgraded slightly from the week earlier due to rainfall. Farmers have completed nearly 80 percent of their second cuttings of alfalfa hay.

County Agent Comments

- “Good, slow rains form Hurricane Dennis helped crops and pastures.”

- Troy Dugger, Hickman County
- “Most of the area received rain during the week and crops are responding quite nicely.”

- Bob Sliger, Monroe County
- “Constant rains from Hurricane Dennis have halted field work, but were welcomed by crops and farmers alike. Farmers are now looking forward to sunny days to advance on farm production.”

- James Griffin, Union County

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending				Current		Current	Departure		
	July 17, 2005				Week	Rain	Since	From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	07/17/05	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	90	67	78	-2	2.10	6	32.63	+2.22	1150	-37
Tri-City_RGNL_A	89	67	77	+3	0.68	5	24.35	+0.87	767	+26
Brownsville_TN	89	66	77	-4	3.46	7	28.28	-2.14	1233	+231
Chattanooga/Lov	87	69	79	+0	2.68	6	30.40	-0.22	1110	+44
Clarksville_Sew	87	68	77	-2	2.01	4	25.79	-2.82	1131	+114
Cookeville	88	67	76	+0	4.50	7	29.14	-3.05	864	+272
Covington	88	66	77	-4	2.66	3	28.53	-1.60	1123	-77
Crossville_AP	86	66	74	+2	3.02	7	28.41	-3.46	773	+86
Dickson_AG	86	66	76	-3	2.39	5	28.16	-2.72	893	-176
Dover_1W	88	66	75	-4	3.03	6	26.81	-2.99	1009	+116
Dyersburg	90	66	77	-4	2.94	6	26.70	-2.01	1255	-33
Erwin_1W	84	65	75	+3	1.91	7	27.70	-0.28	678	-229
Huntingdon_Wate	89	67	76	-3	2.87	6	28.08	-2.02	1082	+130
Jackson_Exp_Stn	88	67	77	-3	2.88	5	32.96	+2.59	1156	+27
Kingston_AG	88	67	77	+2	3.15	6	32.37	-0.90	902	+97
Knoxville_AP	87	69	78	+2	1.04	7	24.50	-3.30	1010	+102
Lewisburg	88	63	77	+0	2.29	7	27.07	-4.59	961	+37
Lexington_TN	89	67	77	-2	2.93	6	29.10	-0.14	1033	+398
Linden	89	66	77	-1	3.38	7	26.32	-5.76	1003	+64
Martin	90	64	75	-4	3.94	6	26.35	-3.84	1097	+20
Mc_Minnville_Tn	88	69	77	+0	2.16	6	24.38	-6.46	1008	-202
Memphis_AG	91	68	78	-5	3.30	4	29.20	-0.40	1257	-182
Milan	88	65	77	-2	3.60	7	29.51	-1.52	1080	+28
Murfreesboro_5N	94	67	78	+1	3.04	7	28.68	-1.46	1050	-154
Nashville_Metro	94	69	78	-1	1.40	5	24.49	-2.75	1194	+76
Newcomb	91	65	76	+3	3.10	6	28.43	-2.65	800	+170
Oneida	87	67	75	+3	3.18	7	28.86	-2.22	816	-182
Pikeville	86	69	77	+0	2.86	6	23.98	-6.77	936	+36
Portland_TN	89	68	76	-2	2.59	7	27.00	-2.73	1034	+138
Pulaski_Water_P	92	68	78	-1	1.44	6	27.22	-4.41	942	-194
Savannah_6SW	90	63	76	-4	2.96	6	29.98	-3.19	1083	+105
Sparta_TN	87	67	77	+2	2.93	7	28.13	-3.21	1031	+255
Springfield	94	66	76	-2	3.37	5	27.68	-0.89	1000	+87
Springhill	89	67	77	-1	3.51	7	32.69	+0.95	1007	+102
Union_City	91	65	75	-4	4.14	7	29.99	+0.32	1032	-24
Waynesboro_TN	88	67	77	+0	3.20	7	27.48	-5.85	953	-138

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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